

In re Patent Application of:
Saltiel
Serial No.: 10/649,287
Filed: August 27, 2003

In the Claims:

Please substitute the claims as set forth below in a complete listing of claims. Claim amendments made include no new matter and are fully supported in the application as filed or in its parent application. Language to be added is shown underlined and language to be deleted is shown struck through.

1.(currently amended) A process for the production of previtamin D, the process comprising:

a first irradiation of a reaction mixture containing provitamin D with light ~~energy~~ having a wavelength of approximately 254 nm; and

a second irradiation of the reaction mixture with light ~~energy~~ having a wavelength of approximately 313 nm, the reaction mixture containing no photosensitizer.

2.(original) The process of claim 1, wherein the first and second irradiations are sequential.

3.(original) The process of claim 1, wherein the reaction mixture further contains a solvent.

4.(original) The process of claim 1, wherein the reaction mixture further contains an organic solvent.

5.(original) The process of claim 1, wherein the reaction mixture further contains methanol.

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6.(currently amended) A process for producing previtamin D, the process comprising:
irradiating a reaction mixture containing provitamin D in absence of a photosensitizer with light energy having a wavelength of approximately from 240 to 265 nm and with light energy having a wavelength of approximately from 300 to 330 nm.

7.(original) The process of claim 6, wherein the first and second irradiations are sequential.

8.(original) The process of claim 6, wherein the reaction mixture further contains a solvent.

9.(original) The process of claim 6, wherein the reaction mixture further contains an organic solvent.

10.(original) The process of claim 6, wherein the reaction mixture further contains methanol.

11.(currently amended) A process for producing previtamin D, the process comprising irradiating a reaction mixture containing tachysterol and essentially no photosensitizer with light energy having a wavelength of approximately from 300 to 330 nm.

12.(original) The process of claim 11, wherein said wavelength consists of 313 nm.

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13.(original) The process of claim 11, wherein the reaction mixture further contains a solvent.

14.(original) The process of claim 11, wherein the reaction mixture further contains an organic solvent.

15.(original) The process of claim 11, wherein the reaction mixture further contains methanol.

16.(original) A method of estimating the progress of the process of Claim 11, the method comprising:

determining ultraviolet absorption spectra for provitamin D, previtamin D, vitamin D, lumisterol, and tachysterol;

monitoring the ultraviolet absorption spectrum for the reaction mixture; and
estimating progress of the process by applying singular value decomposition analysis to the monitored ultraviolet spectrum of the reaction mixture compared to the ultraviolet spectra for provitamin D, previtamin D, vitamin D, lumisterol, and tachysterol.

17.(currently amended) The process of claim 20, wherein the ultraviolet spectra are measured using light energy having wavelengths from approximately 230 nm to approximately 340 nm.

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- 18.(currently amended) A process for production of vitamin D, the process comprising:
a first irradiation of a reaction mixture containing provitamin D substantially free of photosensitizer with light ~~energy~~ having a wavelength of approximately 254 nm;
a second irradiation of the reaction mixture with light ~~energy~~ having a wavelength of approximately 313 nm; and
heating the reaction mixture after the second irradiation.
- 19.(original) The process of claim 18, wherein heating consists of a temperature not exceeding 100° C.
- 20.(original) The process of claim 18, wherein the first and second irradiations are sequential.
- 21.(original) The process of claim 18, wherein the reaction mixture further comprises a solvent.
- 22.(original) The process of claim 18, wherein the reaction mixture further comprises an organic solvent.
- 23.(original) The process of claim 18, wherein the reaction mixture further comprises methanol.

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24.(currently amended) A process for production of vitamin D, the process comprising:
a first irradiation of a reaction mixture containing provitamin D without a photosensitizer with light energy having a wavelength of approximately from 240 to 265 nm;

a second irradiation of the reaction mixture with light energy having a wavelength of approximately from 300 to 330 nm; and
heating the reaction mixture after the second irradiation.

25.(original) The process of claim 24, wherein heating consists of a temperature not exceeding 100° C.

26.(original) The process of claim 24, wherein the first and second irradiations are sequential.

27.(original) The process of claim 24, wherein the reaction mixture further comprises a solvent.

28.(original) The process of claim 24, wherein the reaction mixture further comprises an organic solvent.

29.(original) The process of claim 24, wherein the reaction mixture further comprises methanol.